



Oakridge Baptist Church

(Charitable Incorporated Organisation)

Tel: 01494 537478 (Answerphone)

www.oakridgebaptist.church

Charity Registration Number: 1197400

Registered Address: 43 Oakridge Road, High Wycombe HP11 2PH

Trustees

Mrs A Irwin (Secretary)

Mr P Rackstraw (Treasurer)

Mrs M Rose (Pastoral care co-ordinator)

Dr J Hollman

Mrs P Hollman

Mr J Morgan

Mrs S Rackstraw

Dr D Reynold

Mr J Sinclair

Mrs A Sinclair

Mrs S Dodson (Life Deacon)

Property Trustees

The Baptist Union Corporation Ltd. Baptist House, 129 Broadway, Didcot, Oxfordshire OX11 8RT

Bankers

Metro Bank, High Wycombe

Independent Examiner

Mr C Hanks

Secretary: Mrs Alison Irwin secretary@oakridgebaptist.church

Treasurer: Mr Philip Rackstraw philip@dashwoods.co.uk

Registered Charity No: 1197400 and Office: 43, Oakridge Road, High Wycombe HP11 2PH Members of the Baptist Union of Great Britain, The Central Baptist Association and The Evangelical Alliance

ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2025

The Trustees present their Annual Report for 2025

Structure, Governance and Management

The Church is a Charitable Incorporated Organisation (CIO) and is governed by a constitution based on the Approved Governing Document for Baptist Churches. Members of the Church are accepted in accordance with the constitution which requires them to be or to have been publicly baptised on the profession of faith in Jesus Christ or following other modes of baptism to renew their public profession of faith in Jesus Christ.

The members' meeting normally takes place six times per year and has responsibility for the overall policy of the church. In accordance with the constitution, the members appoint Trustees, who together with the Minister (when in post), Pastoral Care Co-ordinator, Church Secretary and Treasurer (who are also appointed by the members), are responsible for the day to day running of the Church's work and witness, and the financial and legal aspects of the charity. All members are encouraged to take an appropriate part in the spiritual and practical tasks involved in the furtherance of the charitable objective.

Relevant matters may be submitted to the Church meeting by the Trustees for guidance or may be raised by members in Church meetings for further consideration by the Trustees. Though the constitution permits decisions to be made at Church meetings by appropriate majorities, the Church seeks to work by consensus wherever possible.

Objectives and Activities

The principal purpose of the charity is the advancement of the Christian faith according to the principles of the Baptist denomination to include the advancement of education, community service and such other general charitable purposes in such parts of the United Kingdom and the world as the Church shall determine.

To achieve the principal objective, which is set out above, the Church provides a variety of activities both to its membership and to the community generally. The aim is to show the love of Jesus Christ in both word and deed and to bring people into a closer relationship with Him as living Lord.

Central to the work and witness of the Church is the provision of regular public services of Christian worship. These services take place each Sunday at 10.30am with Communion being held one Sunday each month. There is a children's programme during the morning services.

There are also occasional services at other times which are advertised via Church notices, WhatsApp, email, or text. The Church also has a website www.oakridgebaptist.church

The Church continued to be blessed throughout 2025 by the weekly ministry of members and many other friends during our period of interregnum.

The Church seeks to be a friendly community, and anybody is welcome to attend any of these services.

The Church runs a series of Bible study groups for the growth of faith and discipleship; these are held at the Church and via Zoom. Further details can be obtained from the Trustees on request, or at the Sunday services of worship.

The Church holds a Boys' Brigade/Girls' Association which meets on the Church premises on a Thursday evening during school term times. These sessions provide opportunity for young people aged between 5 – 18 to enjoy time together and to receive Christian teaching on a regular basis.

The Church operates systems to ensure that all people working with children and vulnerable adults are appropriately vetted by the Disclosure and Barring Service.

A coffee morning is held twice monthly, providing a time for the members and regular attenders of the Church to meet and share a time of fellowship.

The Church is an approved centre for the collection and distribution of surplus food via the Fare Share charity network. The Church hosts the "Community Friendly Fridge" (CFF), which is open on Thursdays; and is operated by the Women's Cultural Arena CIC (WCA). Each week, food parcels, hot meals and hygiene products are provided to people, as well as seasonal community meals throughout the year. The WCA also runs a Saturday allotment growers breakfast club, from the Church premises.

FoodCycle community meals are hosted at the Church on a Wednesday evening which also links into the Fare Share network. The meals bring people together for good food and conversation by serving up free, wholesome vegetarian meals made from food that would have gone to waste. All meals are prepared by volunteers and open to everyone with no referral necessary. FoodCycle is about more than just food and aims to create a cycle of positive change in terms of reducing food waste, tackling loneliness, supporting mental health, encouraging healthy eating and supporting sustainable living. In 2025 one ton of food was saved from going to waste and 1,835 community meals were served.

The need for these food services continues to increase and the Church is a well-known and familiar venue for food outreach initiatives and considered a safe space to help those most in need within the community.

El-Bethel Tamil Ministry continue to use the building on a Sunday for their services of worship. The Bulgarian Church use the building on an ad-hoc basis.

On a Tuesday evening for the months of January, February and March we opened the Church for those linked with Wycombe Homeless Connection, providing a hot evening meal, shower and washing facilities, a comfortable warm bed and cooked breakfast for up to 12 people.

The Church has read the Charity Commission guidance on public benefit and is satisfied that the activities outlined above clearly demonstrate that the charity is providing a benefit to the public.

Achievements and Performance

The Church does not measure the success of its programmes in numbers, including financial numbers, but in less tangible areas like fellowship, encouragement and participation. The Trustees recognise that these are difficult to measure but believe that 2025 was a positive year in the life of the Church, and that it will be able to continue its mission purposes in 2026.

At the beginning of the year the membership number was 34, at the end of the year the number was 32. 2 members died, 3 transferred to other Churches but we welcomed in 3 new members to the Oakridge fellowship.

On 7th December we shared in the joy of a baptism. The gentleman concerned has been meeting with us for some months now and was keen to be baptised to mark his return to the faith of his childhood and signal his commitment to follow the Lord Jesus Christ.

Average attendance at worship services was good with a slight increase towards the end of the year despite several members of the fellowship suffering from health and mobility issues. Attendance at the Bible study groups held was good. Overall numbers for Boy's Brigade and Girl's Association remained the same with around 40+ young people attending.

The Church has been encouraged by comments made by members of the community about the positive part the church plays in their lives and particularly in relation to the food provision programmes that run. The church is also seen as a reassuring beacon of light to many in the community in a very multicultural, multiethnic and multifaith area.

Financial Review

The Church continues to raise the funds which it needs to carry on its activities from within its members and congregation. No wider public appeal was made for funds during the year. The basic income for 2025 was £38,464.

The Church continued its financial commitment to the life of the wider church by making gifts of £8414 to national and international organisations, societies and individuals, with Christian aims and objectives compatible with the Church's own charitable purposes.

The Church is heavily dependent on its members and congregation working as volunteers and providing resources in all aspects of its activities, many of which run with little or no impact on Church expenditure but, nevertheless contribute substantially to the achievement of the objectives.

The basic running costs of the church continue to rise and the situation is reviewed on a regular basis at our Leadership Team meetings, held monthly. Essential repairs to the Church were carried out mindful of the proposed plans for the site.

The full financial situation is set out in the audited annual accounts and balance sheets for the year.

Future: The Church's plans to redevelop the site - update

Throughout the whole of 2025, efforts were focussed on financing the funding gap of approximately £1 million which was necessary in order to make the Church redevelopment project viable. Despite many meetings, the outcome remained the same i.e. that without planning permissions in place, the project could not be considered for grant funding from the Local Authority. This also applied to the primary grant funder (Homes England) who had committed funds for the project in principle but that too could not be confirmed, or increased, until planning was in place. Alternative funders were also approached but the fact remained that there was still a shortfall unless planning consent was obtained. The Church, therefore, needed to decide whether to continue with the planning application (and associated costs) despite the shortfall.

Reserves Policy

The Trustees have established a Reserves Policy to enable the Church to function effectively and meet its obligations in the event of a decline in our income or a major cost, however this may be set aside if the planned rebuild goes ahead. At present having considered the relevant risks of changes in income and expenditure the Trustees have determined that the appropriate level of reserves should be around £10,000. At the end of December 2025, the church had a working balance of approximately £8,500 none of which is restricted or designated.

The Church has on deposit with the Baptist Union £700,000 (£500,000) being from the sale of the manse in 2022 held against the new build). The balance is from interest accrued and from a previous legacy. The legacy has no restrictions as to its use and some has been used to offset expenses related to the new build, mainly surveys and professional fees and to augment the income of the Church.

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
INDEPENDENT EXAMINERS ACCOUNTANTS' REPORT TO THE PROPRIETOR
ON THE UNAUDITED ACCOUNTS OF OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO

I report on the accounts of Oakridge Baptist Church CIO for the year ended 31 December 2025.

Responsibilities of Trustee and Examiners

As the church's trustees you are responsible for the preparation of the accounts. You consider that the audit requirements of Section 43(2) of the Charities Act 1993 (the Act) as amended by s.28 of the Charities Act 2006 do not apply. It is my responsibility to state whether particular matters have come to my attention.

Basis of the Independent Examiners Report

My examination was carried out in accordance with the General Directions given by the Charities Commission. An examination includes a review of the accounting records kept by the Church and a comparison of the accounts presented with those records. It also includes consideration of any unusual items or disclosures in the accounts, and seeking explanation from trustees concerning such matters.

The procedures undertaken do not provide all the evidence that would be required in an audit and consequently I do not express an audit opinion on the view given in the accounts.

Independent Examiners Statement

In connection with my examination, no matter has come to my attention.

- Which gives me reasonable cause to believe that any material respect the requirements to keep accounting records in accordance with Section 41 of the Act, as amended; to prepare accounts which accord with the accounting records and to comply with the accounting requirements of the Act; have been met or
- To which, in my opinion, attention should be drawn in order to enable a proper understanding of the accounts to be reached.

Calvin Hanks

Date 5/3/25

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
DETAILED TRADING AND PROFIT AND LOSS ACCOUNT
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

		2025		2024
	£	£	£	£
Income				
Offertories		21,093		20,875
Donations		1,370		5,840
Hall hire		9,581		7,965
Gift Aid reclaim		6,560		5,712
		<u>38,604</u>		<u>40,392</u>
Cost of sales				
Kitchen purchases	274		235	
	<u>274</u>		<u>235</u>	
		(274)		(235)
Gross profit	99.29%	<u>38,330</u>	99.42%	<u>40,157</u>
Expenses				
Training	90		-	
Rates and water	1,056		886	
Preaching expenses	1,020		910	
Insurance	2,780		2,706	
Light and heat	5,800		6,412	
Cleaning	4,688		4,534	
Repairs and maintenance	12,707		3,539	
Printing, postage and stationery	132		21	
Telephone	647		341	
Computer running costs	375		180	
Equipment purchased	216		682	
Website maintenance	234		226	
Missionary support	2,520		2,520	
Legal and prof fees - allowable	4,586		52,864	
CCLI Licence	861		826	
CBA donation	1,800		1,800	
BMS	2,200		2,200	
Sundry expenses	34		130	
Other donations	1,894		980	
Subscriptions	237		503	
		<u>(43,877)</u>		<u>(82,260)</u>
Surplus/Deficit		<u>(5,547)</u>		<u>(42,103)</u>
Other income				
Bank interest received		21,221		45,755
Net Deficit/Surplus for the year	40.60%	<u>15,674</u>	9.04%	<u>3,652</u>

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
BALANCE SHEET
AS AT 31 DECEMBER 2025

	Notes	2025 £	£	2024 £	£
Current assets					
Current Account		8,631		19,625	
Baptist Union deposit		711,313		665,550	
Net current assets			<u>719,944</u>		<u>704,270</u>
Capital account					
At 1 January 2025			704,270		700,618
Surplus/Deficit			<u>15,674</u>		<u>3,652</u>
			<u>719,944</u>		<u>704,270</u>

OAKRIDGE ROAD BAPTIST CHURCH CIO
CHARITY NUMBER 1197400
NOTES TO THE ACCOUNTS
FOR THE YEAR ENDED 31 DECEMBER 2025

1 Tangible fixed assets

	Fixtures, fittings & equipment £
Cost	
At 1 January 2025 & at 31 December 2025	68,963
	<hr/>
Depreciation	
At 1 January 2025 & at 31 December 2025	68,963
	<hr/>
Net book value	
At 31 December 2025	-
	<hr/> <hr/>



CHARITY COMMISSION
FOR ENGLAND AND WALES

Oakridge Baptist Church CIO

119740

Receipts and payments accounts

CC16a

For the period
from

01/01/2025

To

31/12/2025

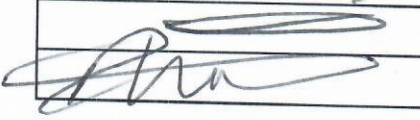
Section A Receipts and payments

	Unrestricted funds to the nearest £	Restricted funds to the nearest £	Endowment funds to the nearest £	Total funds to the nearest £	Last year to the nearest £
A1 Receipts					
Offeratories	21,093	-	-	21,093	20,875
Room Hire	9,581	-	-	9,581	7,965
Donations	1,370	-	-	1,370	5,840
Fund Raising	-	-	-	-	-
Interest Received	21,221	-	-	21,221	45,755
Gift Aid reclaim	6,560	-	-	6,560	5,712
	-	-	-	-	-
	59,825	-	-	59,825	86,147
A2 Asset and investment sales, (see table).					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total receipts	59,825	-	-	59,825	86,147
A3 Payments					
Training	90	-	-	90	40
Rates and water	1,056	-	-	1,056	886
Preaching expenses	1,020	-	-	1,020	910
Insurance	2,780	-	-	2,780	2,706
Light and Heat	5,800	-	-	5,800	6,412
Cleaning	4,688	-	-	4,688	4,534
Repairs and Maintenance	12,707	-	-	12,707	3,539
Printing, postage and stationery	132	-	-	132	21
Telephone	647	-	-	647	341
Computer running costs	375	-	-	375	180
Equipment purchases	216	-	-	216	682
Missionary support	2,520	-	-	2,520	2,520
Travel	-	-	-	-	-
Legal and Professional	4,586	-	-	4,586	52,864
Bad debt	-	-	-	-	-
CCLI	861	-	-	861	826
CBA donation	1,800	-	-	1,800	1,800
BMS donation	2,200	-	-	2,200	2,200
Other donations	1,894	-	-	1,894	980
Subscriptions	237	-	-	237	503
Sundry expenses	542	-	-	542	591
Sub total	44,151	-	-	44,151	82,535
A4 Asset and investment purchases, (see table)					
	-	-	-	-	-
	-	-	-	-	-
Sub total	-	-	-	-	-
Total payments	44,151	-	-	44,151	82,535
Net of receipts/(payments)	15,674	-	-	15,674	3,612
A5 Transfers between funds	-	-	-	-	-
A6 Cash funds last year end	-	-	-	-	-
Cash funds this year end	15,674	-	-	15,674	3,612

Section B Statement of assets and liabilities at the end of the period

Categories	Details	Unrestricted funds to nearest £	Restricted funds to nearest £	Endowment funds to nearest £
B1 Cash funds				
	Metrobank	8631	-	-
	Baptist Union deposits	706313	5,000	-
	Doreen gift	-	-	-
	Total cash funds	714,944	5,000	-
B2 Other monetary assets				
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
		-	-	-
B3 Investment assets				
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B4 Assets retained for the charity's own use				
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
B5 Liabilities				
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
			-	-
Total assets less liabilities		714,944	5,000	
D1 Capital account				
	Opening Balance	704,270	0	
	Assets introduced		0	
	Surplus for year	15,674		
	Total	719,944	5,000	

Signed by one or two trustees on
behalf of all the trustees

Signature	Print Name	Date of approval
	Alison Irwin	29/4/26
	Philip Rackstraw	29/4/26